

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of controlling frequency hopping wireless communications between first and second frequency hopping wireless communication devices, comprising:

the first device determining that a first frequency of a frequency hopping pattern associated with transmissions by the second device is better than a second frequency of the frequency hopping pattern for transmission of a selected communication from the second device to the first device via a wireless communication link, wherein the second frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for the selected communication and the first frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for a communication from the second device to the first device that most closely precedes the selected communication;

responsive to said determining step, the first device instructing the second device via the wireless communication link to deviate from the frequency hopping pattern and use the first frequency for transmission of the selected communication instead of the second frequency; and

responsive to said instructing step, the second device transmitting the selected communication on the first frequency via the wireless communication link.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the first channel quality information and the second channel quality information include information indicative of signal-to-noise plus interference ratios respectively associated with transmissions on the first and second frequencies.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said determining step includes considering sync word correlation information associated with transmissions on the first and second frequencies.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said first and second devices are, respectively, Bluetooth master and slave devices.

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~~9.~~ A method of controlling frequency hopping wireless communications between first and second frequency hopping wireless communication devices, comprising:

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responsive to said determining step, the first device using said most closely preceding communication and the first frequency to inform the second device via the wireless communication link that the first device will deviate from its frequency hopping pattern and use the first frequency for transmission of the selected communication instead of the second frequency; and

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein said determining step includes considering information indicative of potential interference at the first frequency and at the second frequency.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein said first and second devices are, respectively, Bluetooth master and slave devices.

~~13.~~

a determiner for determining whether a first frequency of a frequency hopping pattern associated with transmissions by a further frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus is better than a second frequency of the frequency hopping pattern for receiving a selected communication transmitted by the further apparatus, wherein the second frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for the selected communication and the first frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for a communication from the further apparatus to said apparatus that most closely precedes the selected communication; and

- a wireless communication interface coupled to said determiner, and responsive to an indication from said determiner that the first frequency is better than the second frequency, for instructing the further apparatus via a wireless communication link to deviate from the frequency hopping pattern and use the first frequency for transmission of the selected communication instead of the second frequency.

14. The apparatus of Claim 13, provided as a Bluetooth master device.

15. The apparatus of Claim 13, provided in a base unit of a cordless telephone system.

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16. A frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus, comprising:
a wireless communication interface for receiving from a further frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus via a wireless communication link an indication that a first frequency of a frequency hopping pattern associated with transmissions by said apparatus is better than a second frequency of the frequency hopping pattern for transmission of a selected communication from said apparatus to the further apparatus via the wireless communication link, wherein the second frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for the selected communication and the first frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for a communication from said apparatus to the further apparatus that most closely precedes the selected communication; and

an indicator coupled to said wireless communication interface and responsive to said indication for informing said wireless communication interface that the frequency hopping pattern will be deviated from in order to use the first frequency for transmission of the selected communication instead of the second frequency.

17. The apparatus of Claim 16, provided as a Bluetooth slave device.

18. The apparatus of Claim 16, provided in a cordless telephone.

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19. A frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus, comprising:
a determiner for determining whether a first frequency of a frequency hopping pattern associated with transmissions by said apparatus is better than a second frequency of the frequency hopping pattern for transmitting a selected communication to a further frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus via a wireless communication link, wherein the second frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for the selected communication and the first frequency is specified by the frequency hopping pattern for a communication from said apparatus to the further apparatus that most closely precedes the selected communication; and

a wireless communication interface coupled to said determiner, and responsive to an indication from said determiner that the first frequency is better than the second frequency, for using said most closely preceding communication and the first frequency to inform the further apparatus via the wireless communication link that said apparatus will deviate from the frequency hopping pattern and use the first frequency for transmission of the selected communication instead of the second frequency.

20. The apparatus of Claim 19, provided as a Bluetooth master device.

21. The apparatus of Claim 19, provided in a base unit of a cordless telephone system.

23. A frequency hopping wireless communication apparatus, comprising:

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an indicator coupled to said wireless communication interface and responsive to said indication for informing said wireless communication interface that the frequency hopping pattern will be deviated from and the first frequency will be used to receive the second communication instead of the second frequency.

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